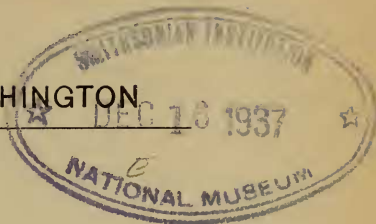


PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTONTHE TIGER-BITTERN OF NORTHWESTERN
MEXICO.

BY A. J. VAN ROSSEM AND THE MARQUESS HACHISUKA.

Only a few months ago the authors (Trans. San Diego Soc. Nat. Hist., 8, No. 23, June 15, 1937, p. 327) stated that a specimen of Cabanis' Tiger-Bittern taken at Tesia, southern Sonora, was seemingly identical with certain Central American specimens of similar age. Since that time, additional material collected by van Rossem and Hannum indicates that not only was the initial assumption correct but that, paradoxically, an undescribed race of *Heterocnus cabanisi* (Heine) exists in the region in question. Briefly, in the juvenile and post-juvenile plumage stages the tiger-bitterns of Sonora are not to be distinguished from *cabanisi* in color and are but slightly larger in size. Adults, however, are quite distinct. We name the northwestern race as

***Heterocnus cabanist fremitus*, subs. nov.**

Type.—31883, Dickey collection, a breeding adult male collected at Guirocoba, extreme southern Sonora, Mexico, on June 2, 1937, by A. J. van Rossem and Robert Hannum.

Subspecific characters.—Resembles *Heterocnus cabanisi cabanisi* (Heine) of southern Mexico and Central America in the juvenile and post-juvenile stages; but in adults the barring on the neck, upper back, and upper chest is notably wider; blackish streaks on fore-neck paler and tending to be broken by the intrusion of barring. Size slightly larger than *cabanisi*.

Range.—Fresh-water streams in the Arid Lower Tropical Zone in southern Sonora and probably in Sinaloa.

Remarks.—Heine's description of *Tigrisoma cabanisi* (J. f. O., 7, 1859, 407) was based on a male from "Mexico,"—obviously an adult but not determinable as to subspecies by the color characters given. The measurements, however, are relatively small and fall well within those of typical *cabanisi* as above restricted. It is possible that examination of Heine's type will provide evidence of specific locality so that we do not care to designate one at this time.

MEASUREMENTS.

	WING	TAIL
<i>cabanisi</i>		
2 ad. ♂ from El Salvador.....	342 - 345	137 - 142
2 im. ♂ " "	310 - 335	126 -
2 ad. ♀ " "	335 - 345	131 - 144
3 im. ♀ " "	325 - 340	125 - 141
<i>fremitus</i>		
1 ad. ♂ from Sonora	365	156
1 ad. ♀ " "	375	157
2 im. ♀ " "	340 - 345	135 - 153